

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DYNAMICALLY IDENTIFYING  
INTERNAL HOSTS IN A HETEROGENEOUS COMPUTING  
ENVIRONMENT WITH MULTIPLE SUBNETWORKS**

**Abstract**

5           A system and method for dynamically identifying internal hosts in a  
heterogeneous computing environment with multiple subnetworks is disclosed. A  
plurality of packets are analyzed. Each such packet includes a source address of  
an originating host and a destination address of a receiving host. An unknown  
originating host located at the source address of an outbound packet is classified  
10 as an inside host with high confidence. An unknown receiving host located at the  
destination address of an inbound packet is classified as an inside host. The  
unknown receiving host is reclassified as an inside host with high confidence  
upon receiving a further outbound packet having a source address corresponding  
to the address of the unknown receiving host.

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